

DCI/IC 73-1050/3  
12 October 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director

SUBJECT : DCI Response to PFIAB on COINS

1. Attached are two versions of a DCI reply to Admiral Anderson's letter of September 25th. The only difference between them is that one contains a paragraph preferred by D/DCI/IC which is headed Analytical content and refers to the current NOIWON project as

"provid(ing) a test vehicle to gain practical experience with the use of intelligence materials that can be formatted and presented in an orderly way, thus enhancing the possibility for computer assistance to intelligence analysts. This experience can benefit files developed for COINS."

2. The DDI (Mr. Walsh) position on that paragraph, supported by DDS&T, is as follows:

Delete paragraph. "This raises a subject on which there is a great deal of disagreement and, as far as I know, no decision that this program will be carried out. Moreover, it has implicit in it a decision to give consumer access to a COINS network. This is a critical decision on which we have to do a great deal of thinking. Finally, I have very serious reservations about the applicability and cost effectiveness of this kind of a computer application and think it premature to advertise."

3. As you have had inputs from Dr. Baker regarding COINS at PFIAB which due to circumstances I haven't learned of, I recommend you decide whether you want to refer to NOIWON and make a choice on that basis. Or we can try again.

AD/DCI/IC

Atts (2)

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